

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): An implant member for threaded reception in an osteotomy in a bone comprising an elongated generally cylindrical post having a longitudinal axis, a coronal end and an apical end, the coronal end having an abutment portion having a smoothly curved basal portion integrally formed at the coronal end of the post, cortical bone threads formed along a first significant axial length portion of the post proximate to the abutment portion and an unthreaded, second significant axial length apical portion contiguous to the first axial length portion.

Claim 2 (previously presented): An implant member according to claim 1 further comprising a third smooth, non-threaded axial length coronal portion between the basal portion and the threaded first significant axial length portion.

Claim 3 (previously presented): An implant member according to claim 2 in which the third axial length portion is formed with a slight sealing taper of increasing diameter moving in the direction from the apical end toward the coronal end.

Claim 4 (previously presented): An implant member according to claim 3 further comprising an epithelial stop in the form of a circumferential groove formed in the tapered portion of the third axial length portion, the groove forming a sharply angled transition with the outer peripheral surface of the third axial length portion on the apical side of the groove and a relatively smoothly angled transition with an outer peripheral surface of the third axial length portion on the coronal side of the groove.

Claim 5 (previously presented): An implant member according to claim 1 in which the first and the second axial length portions are generally equal in length.

Claim 6 (currently amended): An implant member according to claim 1 in which the abutment portion includes a nose projecting from the basal portion, the nose being formed with first and second axial length portions each of which is tapered with a decreasing diameter moving in a direction from the apical end to the coronal end of the post, a retention step being formed between the first and second axial length portions of the nose, the first axial length portion of the nose being contiguous with the basal portion ~~and , the nose~~ having a circumference on the coronal side of the retention step ~~less~~ greater than the circumference of the ~~second axial length portion~~ nose on the apical side of the retention step.

Claim 7 (previously presented): An implant member according to claim 1 in which the abutment portion includes a nose projecting from the basal portion, the nose having a

generally spherical free end and an O-ring groove formed adjacent to the spherical free end.

Claim 8 (previously presented): An implant member according to claim 1 in which the abutment portion includes a nose projecting from the basal portion and the nose has a free end formed with a tapered coping receiving surface circumscribing the free end and a threaded bore is formed along the longitudinal axis through the free end of the nose.